



Weekly Ag Update

USDA/NASS
NEW MEXICO FIELD OFFICE

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Weather Summary Milk Production Cattle on Feed Monthly Ag Newsletter

Available on the Internet: www.nass.usda.gov/nm , or by e-mail (1-800-530-8810 for information)

WEATHER SUMMARY

A weak storm system moved through the state early in the week, but precipitation was generally light and mostly confined to the north. Chama (.25") measured the greatest storm total. Temperatures for the week were close to normal at most locations.

NEW MEXICO WEATHER CONDITIONS - JANUARY 17 - 22, 2006

Station	Temperature			Precipitation				
	Mean	Maximum	Minimum	01/17 01/22	01/01 01/22	Normal Jan	01/01 01/22	Normal Jan-Jan
Farmington	29.0	51	10	0.18	0.18	0.59	0.18	0.59
Gallup	26.4	53	-1	0.10	0.10	0.80	0.10	0.80
Capulin	26.6	56	-2	0.15	0.15	0.40	0.15	0.40
Chama	21.7	45	-3	0.25	0.58	1.77	0.58	1.77
Johnson Ranch	25.4	53	-5	0.00	0.00	0.67	0.00	0.67
Las Vegas	29.4	56	5	0.00	0.02	0.60	0.02	0.60
Los Alamos	28.4	48	10	0.00	0.00	0.86	0.00	0.86
Raton	28.2	60	0	0.08	0.14	0.47	0.14	0.47
Red River	20.6	42	-11	0.17	0.33	1.07	0.33	1.07
Santa Fe	27.9	48	3	0.00	0.00	0.63	0.00	0.63
Clayton	36.2	69	13	0.06	0.06	0.24	0.06	0.24
Clovis	38.9	67	18	0.00	0.00	0.39	0.00	0.39
Roy	32.4	63	9	0.00	0.05	0.34	0.05	0.34
Tucumcari	38.9	66	17	0.00	0.07	0.28	0.07	0.28
Grants	26.9	56	-2	0.00	0.00	0.49	0.00	0.49
Quemado	27.4	56	-3	0.05	0.05	0.83	0.05	0.83
Albuquerque	35.7	57	19	0.00	0.00	0.44	0.00	0.44
Carrizozo	34.3	57	8	0.00	0.00	0.60	0.00	0.60
Socorro	35.1	65	12	0.00	0.00	0.39	0.00	0.39
Gran Quivera	33.7	55	12	0.00	0.00	0.70	0.00	0.70
Moriarty	29.7	54	4	0.00	0.00	0.43	0.00	0.43
Ruidoso	33.1	56	6	0.10	0.10	1.12	0.10	1.12
Carlsbad	44.7	75	22	0.00	0.00	0.35	0.00	0.35
Roswell	39.1	73	17	0.00	0.00	0.43	0.00	0.43
Tatum	37.4	68	10	0.00	0.00	0.39	0.00	0.39
Alamogordo	43.5	61	25	0.00	0.00	0.67	0.00	0.67
Animas	42.4	64	22	0.00	0.00	0.68	0.00	0.68
Deming	39.5	66	14	0.00	0.00	0.56	0.00	0.56
Las Cruces	41.9	68	22	0.00	0.00	0.46	0.00	0.46
T or C	39.7	62	21	0.00	0.00	0.46	0.00	0.46

(T) Trace (-) No Report (*) Correction

All reports based on preliminary data. Precipitation data corrected monthly from official observation forms.

MILK PRODUCTION

NEW MEXICO: Milk production in the state during December totaled 603 million pounds, up from 580 million pounds produced the previous month. Production per cow averaged 1,780 pounds compared to 1,720 pounds in November. Average number of milk cows during the month totaled 339,000 head an increase of 2,000 head from November 2005 and an increase of 18,000 head over the December 2005 total of 321,000 head. New Mexico continues to be ranked 7th in the nation in milk production.

UNITED STATES: Milk production in the 23 major States during December totaled 13.6 billion pounds, up 4.2 percent from December 2004. November revised production, at 13.0 billion pounds, was up 4.6 percent from November 2004. The November revision represented a decrease of 1 million pounds from last month's preliminary production estimate. Production per cow in the 23 major States averaged 1,665 pounds for December, 55 pounds above December 2004. The number of milk cows on farms in the 23 major States was 8.16 million head, 67,000 head more than December 2004, and 4,000 head more than November 2005.

Milk Cows and Production: November 2005 ^{1/} and December 2004-2005

State	Milk Cows ^{2/}			Milk per Cow ^{3/}			Milk Production ^{3/}		
	12/04	11/05	12/05	12/04	11/05	12/05	12/04	11/05	12/05
	-----1,000 Head-----			-----Pounds-----			-----Million Pounds-----		
AZ	166	161	163	1,905	1,840	1,940	316	296	316
CA	1,741	1,770	1,770	1,775	1,725	1,795	3,090	3,053	3,177
CO	102	105	105	1,845	1,820	1,890	188	191	198
FL	138	136	135	1,450	1,220	1,415	200	166	191
ID	435	471	472	1,800	1,790	1,840	783	843	868
IL	106	104	104	1,540	1,480	1,570	163	154	163
IN	155	157	158	1,600	1,650	1,715	248	259	271
IA	188	187	187	1,700	1,620	1,700	320	303	318
KS	111	112	111	1,680	1,650	1,730	186	185	192
KY	110	102	102	1,055	1,040	1,100	116	106	112
MI	307	312	312	1,730	1,735	1,810	531	541	565
MN	460	450	445	1,475	1,440	1,560	679	648	694
MO	119	114	114	1,270	1,230	1,300	151	140	148
NM	321	337	339	1,650	1,720	1,780	530	580	603
NY	650	648	649	1,485	1,485	1,545	965	962	1,003
OH	266	271	273	1,450	1,400	1,450	386	379	396
OR	120	121	121	1,570	1,490	1,550	188	180	188
PA	565	556	557	1,490	1,500	1,580	842	834	880
TX	319	321	324	1,555	1,630	1,720	496	523	557
VT	143	142	143	1,515	1,460	1,535	217	207	220
VA	104	105	104	1,420	1,370	1,460	148	144	152
WA	235	240	237	1,925	1,840	1,910	452	442	453
WI	1,236	1,238	1,239	1,490	1,485	1,555	1,842	1,838	1,927
20 STS	8,097	8,160	8,164	1,610	1,590	1,665	13,037	12,974	13,592

1/ Revised. 2/ Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh. 3/ Excludes milk sucked by calves.

CATTLE ON FEED

NEW MEXICO: Cattle and calves on feed for the slaughter market in New Mexico feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 143,000 head on January 1st, 2006. This was 4.4 percent more than the previous month. Placements were up to 20,000 head in December, compared to 18,000 in November. Marketings were down to 13,000 head, compared to 20,000 the previous month. Other disappearance totaled 1,000 head.

UNITED STATES: Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 11.8 million head on January 1, 2006. The inventory was 4 percent above January 1, 2005 and 5 percent above January 1, 2004. The inventory included 7.57 million steers and steer calves, up 6 percent from the previous year. Placements in feedlots during December totaled 1.88 million, 3 percent above 2004 and 8 percent above 2003. This is the highest placements for the month of December since the series began in 1996. Net placements were 1.79 million. Marketings of fed cattle during December totaled 1.72 million, 3 percent below 2004 and 1 percent below 2003. Other disappearance totaled 91,000 during December, 1 percent below 2004 but 1 percent above 2003.

Cattle on Feed: Number on Feed, Placements, Marketings, and Other Disappearance, 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots ^{1/}												
	Number on Feed			Placed			Marketed			Other Disappearance ^{2/}		
	1/1/05	12/1/05	1/1/06	DURING								
				12/04	11/05	12/05	12/04	11/05	12/05	12/04	11/05	12/05
AZ CA CO ID IA KS NE NM OK SD TX WA Oth Sts US	-----1,000 Head-----											
	331	328	334	33	35	35	30	29	27	1	1	2
	535	550	550	72	66	69	62	53	60	5	8	9
	1,080	1,070	1,080	135	165	155	145	115	140	10	10	5
	295	280	275	55	49	48	62	57	50	3	2	3
	450	500	510	71	108	65	55	80	53	1	3	2
	2,410	2,470	2,500	490	465	495	450	375	435	20	30	30
	2,300	2,400	2,430	390	440	350	380	305	305	10	15	15
	126	137	143	14	18	20	15	20	13	2	2	1
	350	365	370	53	68	64	52	62	57	6	1	2
	192	190	205	42	63	46	34	33	28	2	1	3
	2,700	2,940	2,920	405	495	465	420	510	470	25	15	15
	190	161	152	39	27	26	32	28	34	2	1	1
	340	335	335	35	46	46	40	34	43	5	2	3
	11,299	11,726	11,804	1,834	2,045	1,884	1,777	1,701	1,715	92	91	91

^{1/} Cattle and calves on feed are animals for slaughter market being fed a ration of grain or other concentrates and are expected to produce a carcass that will grade select or better. ^{2/} Includes death losses, movement from feedlots to pastures, and shipments to other feedlots for further feeding.

MONTHLY AG NEWSLETTER
December 2005

The following estimates, forecasts, and projections are mainly taken from recent publications of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, Economic Research Service, and the World Agricultural Outlook Board of the USDA.

Cotton. All cotton production is forecast at 23.7 million 480-pound bales, up 2% from the November 1 forecast and 2% above last year's production. Yield is expected to average 832 pounds per harvested acre, up 19 pounds from last month but down 23 pounds from 2004. If realized, production will surpass the previous record set last year, while yield would be the second largest on record. The World Agricultural Outlook Board's (WAOB) projections include domestic mill use that is unchanged at 6.00 million bales while exports are raised 200,000 bales to a record 16.4 million. Projected U.S. ending stocks are raised 6% to 6.90 million bales.

Corn. The 2005 corn production is forecast at 11.0 billion bushels, down 7% from last year. The average yield is forecast at 148.4 bushels per acre, down 12.0 bushels from a year ago. If realized, both production and yield would be the second largest on record, behind last year. WAOB projected 2005/06 U.S. ending stocks are up 100 million bushels from last month due to a drop in exports. A market year average price between \$1.60 and \$2.00 per bushel is expected, compared with \$2.06 for the 2004 crop.

Wheat. All wheat production totaled 2.10 billion bushels in 2005, down 3% from 2004. The average yield is 42.0

bushels per acre, down 1.2 bushels from last year. WAOB projected 2005/06 U.S. ending stocks at 530 million bushels were unchanged from November 1. The market year average price is expected to average between \$3.25 and \$3.50 per bushel, compared with \$3.40 for the 2004 crop.

Other Crops. Grain Sorghum production is forecast at 388 million bushels, down 15% from 2004. The **peanut** crop is forecast at 4.66 billion pounds, 9% above last year's crop.

Cattle. Mid-December **prices** for choice steers (Nebraska direct, 1100-1300 pounds) averaged \$94 per cwt, up \$3 from mid-November. Feeder steer prices (Oklahoma City, medium-large frame, 750-800 pounds) were roughly \$113 per cwt, down \$5 from a month ago.

Hogs. For the first two weeks of December, hog **slaughter** was running 2.6% above a year ago. Cash **prices** at mid-December (Iowa-Southern Minnesota direct, 51-52 percent lean) averaged \$44 per cwt, down \$1 from the mid-November price. Fourth quarter prices are expected to average \$45 per cwt.